Leicester,

Oct. 11. 1878.

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Dear friend Garrison;

My heart and conscience had both been reproaching me for neither seeing you, nor writing to you, for so long, when your note came of Oct. 9th., for which I am greatly obliged to you. As you say, we can neither be surprised nor afflicted, in view of his infirm health for years and considerable age, at our good George Thompson's departure from the flesh, which had become to great a burden and obstruction to him.

Certainly the event should be noticed, and some fitting tribute to his great services to humanity everywhere, and more particularly in the American anti-slavery work, should be paid.

Of the two methods suggested by you for doing this, I much prefer the public meeting, because in that

way the expression would be
open, public, impressive, and to a
certain extent national, beyond
what it could be by the signing
and sending of a document; — which
latter might be done also, with
the names of those who were
connected with the antislavery
work here, and others whose regard
for him was proven & unquestionable.
— I think that a meeting at which
you, and Phillips, and a few
others, should be announced to speak,
would be well attended. I should
name Abby Foster, if her health would
allow; Lucy Stone; Dr. Charles Phelps;
Frederick Douglass (Spite of some collisions);
Samuel Johnson; P. Pillsbury. — But
how the ranks have thinned of those
who once knew him, who first gave
him the hand of welcome! — I hope
to meet you soon, & learn more fully
what you have decided upon.

Yours information of the Return of Anne Weston & her Sister Emma was the first intelligence we had received of it.

— How much & often I have thought of you, as I read of the outrages & persecutions to which the Colored people at the South are still subjected! The events largely confirm your predictions & expectations, and — I may truly say — my own fears; though I hoped that we might have arrived at the point when "a decent regard for the opinions of the civilized world" might touch even Wade Hampton. But there is a clash, as Burke said in the trial of Warren Hastings, "when no treaty, no promise, no obligation however solemn, can bind." — More when I see you.

With affectionate regard,

Sam'l May.

MS. A. 1.2 V.40 P.41 (b)